

REMARKS

Claims 11-31 are pending.

Claims 11-14, 18, 19, 21-25, 27, 28, and 31 are rejected.

Claims 15-17, 20, 26, and 29-30 are allowed.

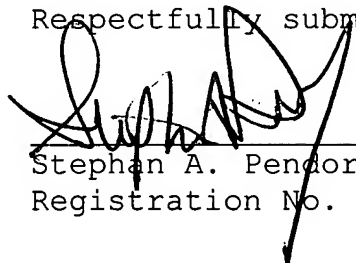
In response, Applicants

- cancel claims 11 and 23,
- amend claims 12-14, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 27 to depend from claim 15, and
- amend claim 31 to depend from claim 26.

Accordingly, it is believed that all claims are directed to allowed subject matter.

As there are no further objections or rejections, early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further suggestions, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: **September 12, 2005**

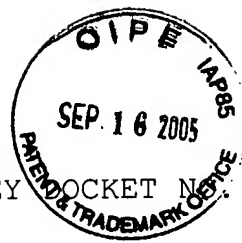
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing AMENDMENT B for U.S. Application No. **10/649,477** filed August 26, 2003, was deposited in first class U.S. mail, with sufficient postage, addressed: Mail Stop: AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **September 12, 2005**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any

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AMENDMENT B

ATTORNEY SOCKET NO.: DKT02032



additional fees, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephan A. Pendorf".

Stephan A. Pendorf